

## CHURCH MATTERS.

**Religious Notices.**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Rev. H. W. Ballantine, Pastor. Public worship on the Sabbath at 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school at 12 M. Sunday-school prayer meeting, Sabbath, at 7 P. M. Weekly prayer meeting, Thursday, at 7.45 P. M.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.**—Rev. Ezra D. Simons, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching at 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school, 12 M. The Lord's Supper on the first Sabbath of each month, close of morning service. Temperance meeting on Thursday evenings. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening, Young People's meeting, Sabbath evening at 6.30 o'clock.

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.**—Rev. D. R. Lowrie, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching, 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school at 2.30 P. M. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening at 7.45. Class meetings, Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7.45.

**THE WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Crown Street, corner Franklin—Rev. S. W. Duffield, Pastor. Sabbath services, 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school, 12 M. Weekly prayer meeting at 8 o'clock each Thursday evening in Chapel parlor.

**CHRIST CHURCH (Episcopal).**—Liberty Street.—Rev. W. G. Farrington, D. D., Rector. Morning service, 10.30 o'clock. Second service, 4 P. M. Sunday-school at 2.45 P. M.

**CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART.**—Rev. J. M. Nardello, Pastor. First mass, 8.30 A. M.; Tuesday mass, 10.30 A. M.; Vespers, 3 P. M. Sunday-school, 2.30 P. M.

**BERKELEY UNION SABBATH SCHOOL.**—Held in Berkeley School-house, Bloomfield Avenue, every Sunday at 3 o'clock P. M. John A. Skinner, Superintendent. All are welcome.

**WATSESSING M. E. CHURCH.**—Rev. J. C. Covens, Pastor. Sunday services: Preaching, 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school, 2.30 P. M. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening at 7.45. Class meeting on Tuesday evening at 7.45.

**ST. PAUL'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH (Watsessing).**—Rev. Daniel I. Edwards, Rector. Morning service, 10.30 o'clock; evening service, 7.30. Sunday-school, 3 P. M.

**GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**—Rev. John M. Enslin, Pastor. Hours of service, 10.30 A. M. Sunday-school, 2 P. M. Prayer meeting, Tuesday evening, 7.45.

**REFORMED CHURCH (Brookside).**—Rev. William G. E. See, Pastor. Sabbath services, 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Sunday-school, 9 A. M. B. G. Day, Superintendent. Prayer meeting, Wednesday evening.

**HOPK CHAPEL.**—Sunday-school every Sabbath at 3.30 P. M. John G. Broughton, Superintendent.

**SILVER LAKE.**—Sabbath-school held every Sunday, in the hall, at 3 P. M. Charles A. Hubbs, Superintendent. Gospel meeting every Sabbath evening at 7.30 o'clock. Prayer and Conversational meeting, Friday evening.

**BLOOMFIELD S. S. TEACHERS' NORMAL CLASS.**—Rev. W. H. Brodhead, Leader. Meets on Wednesday evening of each week, at 8 o'clock, in the Sunday-school rooms of the First Presbyterian Church. Sunday-school teachers, workers, and friends are cordially invited.

**The Revival in Park M. E. Church.** Continued with deep interest. The Chapel is crowded nightly, and a large number of persons have professed conversion. The services are characterized by great solemnity. While there is deep feeling manifested on the subject of religion, there is the absence of all undue excitement. A large choir leads the congregation in singing. Services will be held every evening next week, and a very successful evangelist will assist the pastor, Rev. D. R. Lowrie.

**Dr. Richards' Seminary Lecture.** The rainy night did not prevent a very fair attendance at the opening lecture of the Seminary course last Tuesday evening, and those who were there were well paid for donning their gossamers and curls. Dr. Richards had certain things in his running off-hand talks which is sure to bring back to his lecture room those who heard his former course on Sound. The subject was "The Birth on the Planetary System seen and heard."

Dr. Richards began with a progress backward from the present condition of the earth through the geological epochs of the earth to its molten condition, and then to its gaseous and ethereal state. From this he proceeded to draw a description of that vast vaporous or ethereal sphere—composed of matter so thin that even light was not reflected in it—which pervaded the space now occupied by the solar system. Then came, in brisk and lively succession, the origin of impulse which set the mass in rotation, the contraction of the mass, the detachment of ring after ring from the outside surface of the sphere, the breaking up of the ring into pieces, and the doubling of the pieces into rotating balls, the remnants of the rings in Saturn and of the balls in the moons of Jupiter and of the earth and the development of heat by contraction, both in the sun and in the earth. The nebular hypothesis, as suggested by Kant and developed by Laplace, was outlined in quick, clear strokes.

The supply of heat in the sun, the immense discharge of caloric into space, the material for sun-fuel in meteors falling sunward, and their development of combustion by terrific stroke against the sun's mass, gave another group of lively pictures. Another vivid series was a representation of the final cooling of the earth and its last inhabitants, its fall into the sun, its addition of sun-fuel for some millions of years more, and at last the utter extinguishment of the sun and the sublime and awful results in the system of which the sun is the centre.

Then followed an account of comets and of stellar spaces. The record of the Bible in its opening chapter was impressively vindicated, not against the true forms, but against the false forms of evolution. God was before protoplasm or atoms; and God's record is proof to the best scientific mind to-day that the personal mind which wrote the Book was superior to all that Moses could have known and to all the accumulations of science in this present age of research.

The course promises well, and rain or no rain, atomist or stardust notwithstanding, we hope geology will have good attendance in the lecture which it now

The next lecture takes up the story at the beginning of this planet. The subject on Tuesday the 26th is "The Scientific Exactness of the Bible, The Molten Globe, The Universe, The First Land"—to be illustrated by slides and a lantern.

## Village Improvement Association.

At a meeting of the Village Improvement Association, held last Friday evening, the Committee to confer with the Town Committee on conforming the lines of Broad Street to conform with the legal survey reported, that because of a lack of a quorum at the last Town Committee meeting they had been unable to present the matter to their consideration. A Committee was appointed to secure signatures of parties living along the line of improvement to present to the Town Committee. The Committee on the feasibility and cost of opening Fremont Street to Broad Street reported that they had not been able to secure the terms of all the property-owners as to the relinquishing of the land needed, and were granted further time.

The Committee to enquire into the subject of drainage of certain localities, made quite an exhaustive report showing much care and deliberation of the matter, and a motion was passed requesting the Secretary to furnish a synopsis of it for the columns of THE CITIZEN. Attention was called to the fact that the town has no sewer, the most popular of care of vagrants, drunken persons or others, when held for legal disposition, with the hope that the coming Town meeting might take some action in the matter.

## Dr. Harcourt's Lecture.

To the Citizens:

Having seen an announcement in THE CITIZEN that the Rev. Mr. Harcourt would, on Wednesday evening, 13th inst., at Library Hall, deliver a lecture under the auspices of the W. H. Pierson Post, G. A. R. I thought I would attend. The entertainment was far in advance of some I had attended at the same place, at double the cost of admission. There were no catechism inducements of horses and carriages or other presents to be given away, but, as stated in the advertisement, it was given in aid of the Relief Fund of the Post, which in my estimation is one deserving the encouragement of every good citizen. As I understand it, this fund is created for the purpose of giving aid to the needy of those noble champions who, when the American Union was in jeopardy, freely gave their lives in their hands, and went forth to battle with a determination to perpetuate an undivided country.

I was much surprised at seeing so slim an attendance. Should judge that there was not enough money taken to cover expenses. Those who were not present lost a rich treat, as the tableaux presented in illustration of the principles of the order were rendered in good taste, doing credit to those who participated in them, and were alone worth more than the price of admission.

I have no connection with the G. A. R., my advanced age preventing any participation with the army or navy during the Rebellion, yet I do like to see justice done to all who aided to restore peace to our distracted country.

## The Nature of the Signs of Christ's Coming.

To the Bloomfield Citizen:

In a former article we attempted to demonstrate that the point we have reached in prophetic time is that of the "last days" as described by the Apostles; and that the "signs" to precede the coming of Christ were not to be looked for until we near their conclusion. Let us now inquire as to the nature of those signs.

Great care and thorough study of the Scriptures are required in any attempt to understand the predictions of things still in the future. Guesswork and conjecture are useless. The Bible must be its own interpreter. That many of the prophecies have been literally fulfilled cannot be denied. It also appears plain that the prophecies of the destruction of great cities have generally been fulfilled with predictions of the coming of the "King of kings." Jesus' prophecy of the destruction of Jerusalem, and a very of the present dispensation is so worded as to make the former descriptive of the latter; for nearly everything enumerated in that prediction was fulfilled to a limited extent in the destruction of that city. Among other things (relating particularly to the destruction of Jerusalem) it was said "fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." Josephus tells us that "a star appeared resembling a sword stood over the city, and a comet continued a whole year." Also on a certain day "before sunset, chariots and troops of soldiers in their armor were seen marching about the clouds and surroundings of cities. Several other very strange occurrences are related by the same writer.

The mistake of leaning toward the absolutely literal or absolutely spiritual interpretation of these things has resulted in producing a great deal of mischief by bringing about a sort of contempt for a large portion of the Scriptures, and leading many to believe that a study of these things is unprofitable and vain. But what are we told at the very beginning of the last book of prophecy left to the Church? "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." When Daniel received his prophecy he tells us that "a star appeared resembling a sword stood over the city, and a comet continued a whole year." "Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand." We cannot accept the theory of some, therefore, that all or even very many of these things are still in the future; but rather, inasmuch as these predictions have been in process of fulfillment for sixteen hundred years or more, we are now rapidly nearing their completion.

The falling of the stars and darkening of sun and moon are figures which have frequently been used by the prophets to denote great political and social changes, as proved abundantly by the events. Still, the further statement that "the powers of the heavens shall be shaken" might appear to indicate that the "signs in the sun, moon and stars" would be more literal than figurative. And then we are told "upon the earth shall be distress of nations with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming upon the earth." In Isa. xiv: 1, 19-23; xl: 4, 5, and Jer. lvi: 1-3, we have described which may refer to the same things, and enable us to form some idea of the real nature of these signs. In a few of the succeeding verses of the last reference the oppressed are told to be "patient until the Coming of the Lord"; the reason for which appears to be given in the 23d chap. of Isa. 11 and 12 verses: "The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the Lord of Hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up, and he shall be brought low. When shall we expect the generation de-

## Stepmother vs. Stepmother.

On Tuesday evening an interesting case came on before Justice Hageman, in which Mrs. Bridget Callin figured as complainant and Charles Callin as defendant; as the complaint charged the defendant with threatening to shoot her on the 13th inst., and to bring her to a worse threatened her, numerous witnesses

scribed in Prov. xix: 11-14 to arise, unless in the time when the world becomes as it is pictured in 2 Tim. iii: 1-8. And how could the nations be more ripe for the "time of trouble" spoken of in Dan. xii: 1, and Isa. xvi: 20, 21, and xviii: 1, than at such a time. The political and social questions which are agitating the world to-day, together with the unprecedented rapid accumulation of wealth by the comparatively few, are well calculated to bring about a social upheaval which might aptly be described in Rev. xvi: 18 as a "great earthquake such as was not since men were upon the earth, so might an earthquake and so great."

With these suggestions we leave the readers to search the Scriptures for themselves, and so form their own opinions as to the probable nature of the signs to precede the "Coming of the Son of Man."

Bloomfield, Feb. 20, 1884.

## LITERARY NOTES.

It is the intention of THE CITIZEN to give great care to the literary notes of our community. We shall endeavor to publish as many of the more and more interesting contributions as we can. We are glad to receive them, and we are glad to publish them.

Meeting of the Watsessing Social Society. N. Y. Harper & Brothers, 1884, 12mo. pp. 319.

The "Author of the Bread Winners," in a characteristic letter to the Century Magazine for the current month, takes occasion to say that he is very glad to see it is plain, by this time, that he has not struck the centre of the American novel he has certainly planted his arrow at no great distance beyond the gold. And the "Bread Winners" is a very good thing, a great criticism of his work is fully as enjoyable as his book itself.

To the world in general he there announces that his real hero is Offit, and his real heroine is Maud Matchin. He repudiates both extremes of opinion—the one that he is a snob and cultivates the aristocracy, and the other that he is a foe to labor unions and the interests of the oppressed mechanic. How easy it is to guess what a writer's motives may be! And how easy it is in this case for the aforesaid writer to laugh in his sleeve at the entire conjecture. The author asserts that his identity is known to but three persons—himself, a prominent literary man, and one other, and who is presumably the editor of the Century, but who is not named. The author asserts in question possibly posing as the "literary friend." He also says that he is a working man and earns his bread by hard labor, with little or no vacation; and that even his publishers are ignorant of his name.

But the man who could write "The Bread Winners" is no tyro. There is a finish to his style, which it is difficult to say is rapid work throughout—is always that of a cultured and experienced writer. The man has evidently been an essayist, a composer of sketches, a poet possibly—still in the hands of the publisher.

His acquaintance with all classes is noticeable. His Western scenes are correct in every detail. His mechanics and labor agitators are close to the life—as is Maud Matchin, who is unfortunately visible to any one who cares to search after her. Farnham and the Beldings are real people. There is not one incident in the book which is improbable (except it may be Mrs. Belding's opera-glasses) and the various characters are all within the range of the experience even of the writer of this critique.

Thus, if we were asked to name the author we should single out a journalist in preference to any one else—and such a journalist as Col. John Hay. The writing is New York, not from Boston or Philadelphia, nor from any of the interior of the West. The general tone of the novel is far enough removed from Howell and James and the present school—indeed, it is far enough removed. The very use of slang is masterly, and displays a Bohemian adaptiveness which none who read Col. Hay's Pike Col. Ballads will deny to that brilliant gentleman. In short, that is our guess at the authorship, and we shall let it stand until a better offers itself.

"The Bread Winners" is truly a social study. It reveals the dangers of the upper class, and the dangers of the lower class. It shows parents who are content with humbler dress and plainer living than their more aspiring families. It also sets forth with some considerable vividness the danger of labor agitation when conducted as it is mostly is—by men of the Offit stamp; to the ruin of many a good fellow like Sam Sneezy. The final catastrophe where Sneezy proves his own avenger is eminently literary and absolutely correct in its conventionalities like a Titan. Col. Hay advocates such doctrines, by the way, after Lincoln's assassination. It was in his superb poem, "God's Vengeance," that he said "the God of the living and the dead, and never to be forgotten by any who read it. Its key-note is just the same as in that fiery scene:

"Must He come down from His throne? Hath He no instruments here?"

If we cannot stay to analyze the book at length, it is too brief for the work of either a man of leisure or a professional novelist. It is indeed almost crude in the brevity of many of its scenes. It has an intolerance even with its own delay. In the present shape which has been given to it by the Messrs. Harper it is a most delightful volume. And we are greatly mistaken if it does not grow rather than dwindle in public esteem. It is also safe to add that the book-buyer who wants to get the American novel when it appears, had better be content to drop the modern school and to buy this particular work of fiction and catalogue it for future reference. It is the strongest, freshest, brightest—though scarcely the most symmetrical—effort in that direction of which we are aware. Our readers will make no misty place in their secure and retain it permanent form.

The *Manhattan* for February displays a tendency to advance and improve. Its outside is no beauty—that is sure. The young woman must be tired of nursing her knee in the midst of that gloomy cover. But the engravings are on the mend, and the contents of this number are bright and readable. We note especially our school-day admiration, Fingal's Cave, and are delighted that the various professed pictures of it are all put together. Our own confused mind is finally set at ease by a very clever article. In a word, the *Manhattan* is doing well.

## Stepmother vs. Stepmother.

On Tuesday evening an interesting case came on before Justice Hageman, in which Mrs. Bridget Callin figured as complainant and Charles Callin as defendant; as the complaint charged the defendant with threatening to shoot her on the 13th inst., and to bring her to a worse threatened her, numerous witnesses

on both sides were called. It appears that Mrs. Callin, who is a young looking woman, married the defendant's father, a man over seventy years of age; and that after his death, his son applied to the Orphans' Court for his father's estate; from that time there has been no peace in the Callin family, the widow holding one-third of the property as her dower right over to keep the peace toward Mrs. Callin by Justice Hall. After reviewing the evidence Justice Hageman decided to hold the defendant in bail to the amount of \$300 to answer.

## BUSINESS NOTICES.

ZACHARIAS & SMITH, Orator Hall, Newark, N. J., are daily expecting a large stock of New Bicycles for the spring trade, consisting of Expert Columbias, Standard Columbias, Stars and the cheaper wheels known as the Ottos, Aces, Ideals, etc., ranging in price from \$12.50 to \$100.00; they also have "Petite" tricycles for girls from \$12.00 up. For ladies and elderly gentlemen they have Tricycles, the most popular of which they keep constantly on hand. They are always glad to show visitors the different makes and take pleasure in having the ladies try the tricycle. In addition to their Bicycle business they have taken charge of the Roller Skating at Orator Hall on Monday and Friday afternoons and evenings.

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## WINTER COURSE.

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in the Lecture Room of the  
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 AT EIGHT O'CLOCK.  
**Four Geological Lectures.**  
 By Professor Henry E. Roberts, M. D.  
 FEBRUARY 19th. Birth of the Solar System. FEBRUARY 26th. Scientific Exactness of the Bible. The Molten Globe. The Universal Flood.  
 MARCH 4th. The First Life. The Age of Shell-Fish. The Coral Builders. The Age of Fishes. The Reptilian Age, and the Coral Period.  
 MARCH 11th. The Age of the Great Land. The Age of the Domestic Animals. The Fruit and Forest Trees. The Appearance of Man.  
 One Historical and Descriptive Lecture.  
 MARCH 18th. The Greek Church, by Rev. NICHOLAS BIERING, late Priest of the Greek Church in New York City.  
 ONE EDUCATIONAL LECTURE.  
 APRIL 5th. Theories of Education, by Rev. CHARLES E. KNOX, D. D.  
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